

Recycling of Hospital Wastes

1457. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that hospital wastes like syringes, needles, glucose and blood transfusion pipes are being reused in most of the hospitals risking spread of killer diseases like AIDS, Hepatitis B and a host of other equally life-threatening diseases for quite some time;

(b) whether there is flourishing recycle trade of hospital wastes in the country, despite Supreme Court orders to the contrary; and

(c) the Government's action plan to curb such activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment & Forests have informed that there is no authentic information about recycling of injections, needles, syringes, used cotton etc.

(c) The Government has requested all States/Union Territories to take necessary steps to ensure that the rules as stipulated in the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 are implemented in letter and spirit and to set up an inspection procedure to ensure that disposable items are segregated and treated properly before disposal so that the same are rendered unusable.

Decrease in the number of Hospital Beds

†1458. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published under the title, "Bistron ki sankhya me vridhi ke

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.